Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

National Park Service

Reading: Basic Facts on Cherokee Life

U.S. Department of the Interior



- Log cabins were the standard Cherokee living quarters
- 4,000 dwellings stood in the Georgia section of the Cherokee nation
- New Echota in north Georgia became the capital of the Cherokee nation
- The average Cherokee family consisted of six people
- In addition to the log cabin home, a typical Cherokee farmstead also included potato houses, smokehouses, corn cribs, and stables
- Many farmsteads also had fruit trees, such as peach, apple, pear and plumb trees
- A vegetable garden was usually near the house
- Some Cherokee owned large farms (plantations) that sold certain crops, like tobacco and cotton for cash. A few Cherokee were wealthy enough to own slaves
- In addition to farming, some Cherokee owned ferries and stores

Activity:

Have students draw a picture of what life was like on a New Echota settlement.

Think Aloud Question:

Do you think Cherokee life in Georgia would be similar to the lives of white settlers? Use the facts above and your drawing to explain your answer.